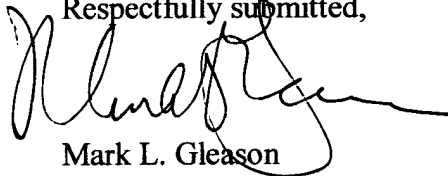


REQUEST FOR TIME EXTENSION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of three months to and including April 11, 2001, in which to respond to the Office Action dated October 11, 2000. The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct the three-month extension fee, and any additional fees that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 for any reason relating to this paper, from Howrey Simon Arnold & White Deposit Account No. 01-2508/10872.0177.DVUS00.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date:

4/10/01